THEATRE DRESSING ROOMS.

A PREP INTO A FRW WHICH BAYS POINTS ABOUT THEM.

The Overpowering Wardrobe of Lillian Enseell-Mr. Stevens's Cartoons-Minnie Palmer's Things-Mr. Sothern's Assort-ment-" Excuse Us," Say the Kendals, Great changes have been made in recent

years in the construction and arrangement of the theatre dressing rooms. This is especially true in the larger cities. In olden times very

Hitle attention was paid by managers of thes.

tres to the dressing rooms. In many theatres

all the actors were compelled to use one room

and all the actresses another. Anything in

the way of a screen was considered good enough. In the smaller cities no provision

that smacked in the slighest degree of comfort

or convenience was made for the actor or

been a bare, cold, and comfortless place and

under the old system in the smaller towns the

dressing rooms frequently consisted of nothing but unplaned pine board partitions, attached

to bare brick walls. The light-footed, smiling queen of the comic opera had to don her

tights in an atmosphere so cold that her teeth chattered and the goose flesh appeared. For

The rear of the stage has always

They Have Seen Abolished by the War-Department and Unromantic Figures Substituted-Assesdates of Cantinteres.

PARIS. Oct. 24.-Any American who has knocked about the streets of Paris must have seen a middle-aged woman quietly engaged shops of the Louvre. The front of her dress is ornamented with several medals, among them those of Italy and the Crimes. This woman is Mme. Bonnemaire, once a celebrated cantinière. In the Franco-Prussian war she was intrusted with a perilous mission as bearer of an important despatch, and, fear-



THE PUTURE CANTINIÈRE.

ing lest she should be arrested and searched on her passage through the enemy's lines, she learned the contents of the message by heart and then swallowed the paper.

Mme. Bonnemaire was somewhat puzzled a

lew weeks ago to account for a sudden and remarkable briskness in trade. Her stock of



songs rolled out by the soldlers, and in the field a sight of her red, white, and blue keg as she stood coolly under fire never falled to call forth a shout of admiration. She was the pride,



VIVANDIÈBE OF 1793.

the queen of these rude warriors, and was treated accordingly, and now like the drummer boy, who was "abolished." too, about a year ago, she is to become a mere recollection. Those who would know what she was like must turn to the romances of Lever or Oulda, or to the French histories of the Napoleonic wars, both under uncle and nephew, and, last of all, to the stories of the Prussian invasion. While there are many cases on record where a canteen woman was decorated for bravery on the field of battle, there is but one woman in existence who wears the decoration of the Legion of Honor. She never wore the uniform of a cantinifere; but she went through the campaign of 1870 with the franc tireurs (irregular sharpshooters). Her name is Garrethou. It would not be a difficult matter to make up a long list of canteen women who were actually wounded on the field of battle. One in particular, "widow Perrot." a cantinière of the army



of Africa, was several times wounded and was rewarded with a military medal for her bravery. Studenie of the Revolution will remember "Is mere Moreau." who faithfully followed the armies of the republic. During a battle her post was usually with the "tiralleurs." Often she was seen to advance through a hall of bullets to administer to the wants of a wounded soldler, and after the battle was over she was everywhere, helping and encouraging, making no distinction between friend or foe, accepting nothing for her services.

During the terrible retreat from Moscow a canteen woman underwent months of suffering and deprivation in order to save the life of Gen. des Essarts, who, severely wounded, had been abantoned by his men and left to die in the snow. Madeleine Tremoreau is also worthy of mention. She was the canteen woman of the Second Zouaves and distinguished herself at the battle of Magenta. On that day, as long as her cognac lasted, she ran from rank to rank offering her "petits verres." heedless of the balls which tore her red skirt. When her A PATTENED VETERAN.

der in season as well as out of season not despising them when they become comparatively cheap. A person whose favorite is the orehid never has, of course, this reason for thinking less of it. "You could put \$50 worth of orchids in your hat." a florist said, "and \$100 would buy only a small centrepiece for a dinner table," A choice Cataylla costs 75 cents. It is perhaps on account of its cost that the orchid is the holiday flower. At Christmastide people are more likely than at other times to buy the most expensive things they can get The Jacqueminot, or, in its English form, the Jack, roses are also holiday flowers. They first bloom about then, and sell readily at from \$8 to \$12 a dozen. The American Beauty finds favor all the year round, even when it is comparatively cheap, but it becomes an especial favorite soon after Christmas, for, be-coming rare, it sells for from \$15 to \$18 a dozen. Until the Jack blooms, the Meteor, a new flower quite like it, will have a sale for that reason, in spite of its selling at the comparatively low rate of from \$2 to \$5 a dozen. The Mrs. John Lang, also a new rose, which stands perhaps in the same relation to the American Beauty that the Meteor does to the Jacques-it is quite as large, but it has a lighter and, some think, a more delicate color—will come to the front in about a week. It's of French origin and was introduced by an English grower, who named it after his wite. It sells for from \$1 to \$1.50 each. The Madame Hoste, a yellow rose, which is from three to four inches in diameter when fully blown, appears this season in an improved condition, and will goubtless be popular with those who like yellow roses, especially as it comes high. The Magna Charta is liked for its size and its high price. spite of its selling at the comparatively low

rate, most sought after. A flower that is diffi-

its place, and so the fashion changes from one premature growth to snother. An exception

to this rule is the orchid, which is always in

vogue because it is always expensive. On the

other hand, many persons, especially women.

have their favorite flowers, which they or-

To the uninitated its sounds quere to hear that the rose season is just beginning, yet this that the rose season is just beginning, yet this that the rose season is just beginning, yet that the rose season is just beginning, yet that the rose season is just beginning, yet that the rose season is just beginning, and the amountment is premature in regarding of the rose of the r

little tri-colored keg was at last emptied she caught up the musket and cartridge box of a wounded man and ollowed the Zonaves in their furious stiack on the village of Magenta coming out of the aftery without soratch or wound. At the battle of Solferine Mme, Ores, canteen woman of the Imperial Guard, had her hand smashed by a bullet while giving

The Mees Coestly Are the Most Pashtenable Until They Are Fleatiful, but Orehids Are Always Bestrable—Favorities of the Freeent and Isdividant Preferences.

There is a fashion in flowers as in other things with which rich people have to do, and it is even more unreasonable and more capriculus that nother fashions. As a rule, whatever is most costly is most fashionable, or, at any rate, most sought after. A flower that is difficulty. The violet is also Ward McAllisters favorite flower.

SOMETHING ABOUT LAWN TENNIS. cult to procure from its being not yet in sea-son is sought after for that reason, and as soon How an Inexperienced Player May Improve as it becomes plentiful it is no longer prized above its fellows. Another forced flower takes

Ills Cume. Much has been said and written about laws tennis, but still one hears on all sides such questions, as "What should an inexperienced player do to become more proficient in the game?" "Do the crack players of the country train for tennts contests as other athletes do? "Is lawn tennis practice in winter beneficial to one's game?" "Which style of play, the net or back court game, is most in vogue among

players, and which the most effective?" These questions are all of the greatest im-portance to the inexperienced player, and for

his benefit an expert will ondeavor to answer them in order.
"In the first instance, as to how an inexperienced player should improve his game. Hav ing become a member of some club whose courts are either turf or earth, the first point to be considered is the service. Generally speaking there are two kinds of service, which, of course, admit of many and extreme variations: 1. The over-hand service. 2. The under-hand service. It is, I think, generally acknowledged that the over-hand service, if delivered effectively, is the best, as it is more difficult to return than the under hand, but I should recommend all be-

tion is at the back game very well, and cannot volley at all, it would be ridenious for you to attempt the volley game. Volleying it merely a question of practice in the volley game in the volleying it merely a question of practice in merely a question of practice in merely a question of practice in the property of the volley game. Volleying it merely a question of practice of the volley or net game over a back game are as follows: (i). The only balls that can make you run while in your position of vantage at the net are toose returned from the corner of the right or left court in a direction parallel with and near to either side line. (2) By your forward position you are within easy reach of any balls would be not a ready of the property of the right or left court in a direction parallel with and near to either a roady of the property of the right of the parallel with and near to either any of the property of the right of the parallel with and near to either any of the property of the your forward position you are within easy reach of any bottom of the your back-line adversary. (3.) Again, you will notice that in volleying how quick your return is, and that the chances are greatly in favor of its being past' your back-line adversary before he knows where he is; whereas, while he is waiting for the ball to bound, you have ample time not only to watch what he is going to do, but to take up any position you may consider best suited for his roturn.

Personally I think the argument is all one-right of the proposed to the total parallel pa

at Springfield. At first it was determined to use a compressed and perforated cartridge in the magazine guns; but before that could be obtained the results achieved in several countries of Europe by smokeless powders gave the latter the preference. After waiting some time to see whether an entirely satisfactory smokeless powder could be produced in this country, arrangements were made for purchasing a quantity of the sort made in Belgium, with a view to its manufacture in the United States as the standard for army use. The consign-ment, which is from the Wetteren firm, has not yet arrived; but in the mean time the Magazine Gun Board can perform its preliminary work. Presumably there will be brought before It for competition several American devices, both in powders and in magazine mechanism. Smokeless powder is said to have been invented about twenty years ago. But if so early a period is assigned to it, the reference must be to powder which was much less smokeless than that which is now made, although having enough of its attributes in a crude form to belong to this class of explosives. Ten years ago, as Gen. Benct has noted, propositions were made to the Ordnance Department for the manufacture of smokeless powder in this country. Perhaps the best known of the milltary smokeless powders is the one invented by M. Vicilie, called Poudre B. which received from the French Academy of Sciences the Lecompte prize of \$10,000 awarded every three years for the most important discovery made in that period. This is the powder used in the

rom the French Academy of Sciences in Leber three years for the most important discovery made in that period. This is the powder used in the Leber tifle, to which it furnishes a remarkable initial velocity, said to could 2.194 feet per second, yet with a very slight recoil and little strain on the mechanism. It gives out only a thin bluish smoke, which quickly dissipates, and the report is heard but a snort distance away. Pierte acid is said to be an important ingredient in this powder. A modification of it, known as BN, is used in heavy gues to which it furnishes a still higher initial velocity, that of 2.540 foot seconds for the 95 inch, and even more to the smaller rapid-fire gues.

The Schultze smokeless bowder is famous for sporting uses, being known for this purpose in many countries. Griffith taking Schultzes invention, gave it a great impetus, and is said to have been experimenting lately with it for military purposes, by making it burn more slowly. Gelbite is a smokeless powder invented by Ir. Emmens by treating with emmensite, the high explosive invented by him a specially prepared thick vellow paper. It is said to give a great increase on the propulsive power of ordinary powder and to emit only a small puff, but with a sharp report. The smokeless and nolseless powder invented by Capt. Ledyard Elisworth of flattfort has also attracted much attention. The Mixim smokeless and nolseless powder invented by Capt. Ledyard Elisworth of flattfort has also attracted much attention. The Mixim smokeless only a modification of the Rhenisu-Westphalian powder, was for some time used in the Armstrong rapid fire gues, as it leaves no residuum in the bore and gives out but a slight smoke. These gues have lately used cordite, so called from its being made un of long grayish cords, which are afterward cut to the proper lengths. It is reported to have given a velocity of 2.300 feet a second, and to be satisfactory for rapid-fire and machine and Westphalian factories produce a well-known smokeless powder, the large graine

its trial in Russia:

With a charge of the Grakrut equal to 70 per cent of the other powder, the initial velocity was increased 33 per cent and the chamber pressure 5 per cent. With the charge of Grakrut decreased to 62 per cent, the initial velocity was increased 28 per cent without any perceptible increase of chamber pressure. When a charge of 74 per cent was used, the initial velocity was increased 40 per cent. Without giving an undue pressure in the chamber.

In competitive tests from Nordenfeldt machine guns the smoke from ordinary powder was not dissipated for twenty-dive seconds, while that from the drakrut was in the form of a transparent vapor, remaining visitie only five seconds.

was in the form of a transparent vapor, remaining visible only fire seconds.

The base of nearly or quite all of the smokeless powders is some altrous compound, so that they might even be called nitrate powders. They are nearly all, if not still in the experimental state, yet liable to certain objections. Perhaps the most common of these is inability to keep in all climates, Still that is not a fatal objection to their use at home or in specific is itudes. Some of them give out an odor which practically probibits their use. But it is quite certain that smokeless powders aufficiently good for practical service are employed by several countries, and can be had by our own. And even this would not be allowed by a countries before smokeless powders were secured. Nevertheless, the reduction of the calibre, which overcomes one main objection to the repeating arm, by allowing the soldier to carry a larger number of cartridges, is greatly aided by the use of the now and powerful nitrate powders, while the further objection of obscuring with smoke by more rapid firing the object aimed at its also removed. The experiments of the Magazine Gun Board with rifles and powders will be a leading subject of interest both for the army and the militia.

Good Sea Cooks In Demand.

Good Mes Cooks in Demand.

Prom the Philadelphia Press.

The scarcity of ship's cooks at this port, as well as throughout all the American ports and those of Eogiand, has become an alarming feature, and it is seidom of late that vessels are able to get men to act in such canneity that are versed in the elementary principles and practice of the art.

Interior cooks on board a vessel, without exception, are sure to cause trouble among the sailors with their bad preparation of the food, and it oftentimes leads on to muthy. This condition of affairs can only be a counted for by the greater inducements that are effered cooks on shere. On board the ordinary merchantman the cook's position is by no means a sinceure; he is up before the sun rises proparing for breakfast, and seldom gets to ted again until midnight, yet the highest wares paid is \$35 per month.

Shipmasters know full well the importance of wholesome cooking on board ship, and that on it depends in a great degree the health comfort, contentment, and discipline of crews: they are therefore not contented to venture on a long voyage with a cook who may come to them without good recommendations flow, the last vessel in which he served.

For many years past large American ships have found it more economical to ship Chinamen in the capacity of cooks, and it is seldom that a white man is found on board what is known as the deep-water American clipper, English vessels are falling in with this, and are shipping Chinese cooks as well as stowards. Many of the tramp steamships have secared Chinese in this capacity, and all their Capitains speak in the highest terms of their ability over the white men.

The Shipmasters' Society of London are sending out circulars to the governing bodies of industrial schools and training ships, urging upon them the necessity of teaching boys the practice and art of cooking, especially for those of them that show aptitude for stewards work. On board merchant vessels nowadays tea is well described as "water bewitched and tea betrayed."

to vote on election day. The Attorney-General says substantially that inasmuch as the eral says substantially that inasmuch as the territory of West Point is owned by the United States, having been ceded by this State to the United States, the residents of the property thus ceded are not entitled to to'ce either at Highland Falls or elsewhere in this State, and in support of this cites many legal authorities. In other words, persons making West Point their home, and claiming it as their place of residence, have no vote, if they reside at West Point and claim some other place as their residence, then they are not residence of West Point and cannot vote at Highland Polis, but must go to their places of residence to vote.

light she had to be contented with a sputtering tallow dip, and the only wonder is that more of them did not sink into consumption and the other diseases that result from constant exposure to cold after exertions that brought on perapiration. The dressing rooms of the modern theatres are quite different. Every effort is made to se-

SOTHERN'S MEMORANDUM BOOK. cure comfort and convenience. The walls are running water, and there are both electric lights and gas. In some of the small cities. where the old theatres still remain there is still much discomfort in this respect, but the reputable companies have avoided these places so much of late that even in them the new

ideas are beginning to prevail.

It will be remembered that somewhat over a oar ago when Manager Duff, then of the Standard Theatre, brought his famous suit against Lillian Russell because she refused to wear tights, Lillian said in her defence that she could not with any degree of safety do this while travelling through the country. The stages and dressing rooms of the country theatres, she said, were so draughty and uncomsevere colds. Even in boastful Chicago, she said, the dressing rooms were altogether inadequate, and her physician had repeatedly which would destroy her voice if she did not abandon the habit of wearing tights.

The dressing rooms of the theatres of this city are especially well arranged. Rarely do more than two actors or actresses occupy the same room, and the room is always supplied with steam hest, and in most instances with nice furniture. While, however, the change in the dressing room is undoubtedly to be commended in most respects, it has caused the disappearance of an old custom which for



SIX STYLES OF VIRGINIA HARNED.

many years made the dressing rooms of the theatres throughout the country extremely rough board or brick walls were so ugly and bare that the artistic sense was grateful for any inscription or decoration that might be nearly every actor or actress considered it a duty to write upon the walls some sentiment or thought that might seem some sentiment or thought that might seem appropriate to the time and occasion. In this way the walls became covered with odd and curious mementoes of different occupants of the rooms. In country towns, especially, this practice became so universal that at times the walls were completely covered with curious writings, either comical or serious. It was not unusual, either, for an actor or actress who spent a night or two in a small town to leave some message or bit of news written upon the wall of the dressing room for some member of a company which he or she knew was soon to occupy the same theatre. In this way the theatre dressing rooms came to be bureaus for the exchange of news, and many of the things written upon these walls, if they could now be collected, would make interesting reading as the mementoes of actors who passed away.

Since the dressing rooms have become so much improved the writing on the walls has been frowned upon by the profession generally, and for a man now to leave a written memento of his presence is looked upon as an indication of asininity. Still, the theatre dressing rooms of this city are even now worth visiting. The reporter went up to the Casino the other day just prior to the evening performance, and took a look through some of the appropriate to the time and occasion.



TULLY MARSHALL'S MEMENTO.

rooms there. Of course, Lillian Russell's room proved the most interesting. It is a small, but comfortable room, with a blue carpet on the floor, steam heat, and electric light and gas. Two large mirrors give Lillians chance to look at herself before she goes upon the stage. The reporter gazed with awe upon a lot of Frenchiabelled flottles and nots containing the various toilet probasitions used by the blonds queen of the light opera.

But all these things were as nothing compared to the marvellous conceptions that were hidden behind an ordinary retonne curtain on one side of the goom. There, hanging from ordinary from hooks, were those lovely combinations of artistic ideas and dressmakers' art which have time after time intexticated the vision of the theatregoers of this town. Lightcolored silk stockings that the reporter dared hardly look at: beautifully arched slippers, lined with down; mysterious skirts, with wonderful lace embroideries, and gowns and waists that were almost ideal in their beauty hung lonesome and forlorn against the nuked wall. The reporter did not linner long here, for the reason that he was full of a ceeling that his presence was almost sacrilege. The indifferent attashe, who guided him will arched him to remain and note the various beauties that the room contained, but in valu.

There is one room in the number at the Casino that still bears some resemblance to the old-style dressing room. It is that occupied by Mr. Biccens, who is evidently a funny man off the stage as well as on. He has taken a picture used as an advertisement for some kind of baby's food, which represents a large and healthy baby, and has decorated it with red hair. He has taken and other picture and labelled the characters in a way not at all flattering to some of his acquaintances on the stage. There is a cariesture which portrays two men in conflict. One, as idenly man, is whalling the other, a younger man and somewhat of a dude, over the head with an umbrelle.

The artist labelled this production: "Rashing actors need protection—from the indignant relatives of the ladies they annoy." Mr. Stevens has labelled the angry old man "Mr. Comstock," and the young man who is receiving the thrashing "Harry Hilliard." Mr. Hilliard, who is now at Herrmann's Theatre, may call Mr. Stevens to an accounting for this. Another production of the same artist's pencil is labelled. "Loading actors need protection—from the cold winds that whistie around the corners where they do congregate." Here four misserable, forforn-looking men, with histrionic andirations written on their brows, are gathered together, eying each other with expressions of gloomy dejection. Mr. Stevens has labelled these various." De Wolf Hopper, Murray Wools, and Bubber and Graham.

Minnie Palmer, who is now appearing in "Sugette" at Herrmann's, has one of the most charming dressing rooms in town. The walls are concealed behind hangings of pink-flagured Japanese silk, and are further decorated by the sweet hats which she wears on the stage. Some of her cestumes were lying around when the reporter visited the room. While the creations were perhaps not so magnificent nor so complicated as those owned by Lillian Russell, there were still a few mysterious but beautiful things which caused the eyes of the visitor to dilate with appreciative astonishment. The ruffles on the skirts were perhaps not so deep nor so intricate in their designs, but they were still both beautiful and expensive. Harry Hilliard's room is decorated with hiptographs of many admiring ladies, who would probably be disagraceably aurprised if they should be reproduced here. Half the side of one wall was covered with these.

The rooms at the Lyceum have recently beding a surfaced with these.

The rooms at the Lyceum have recently beding a surfaced with the second act of "The Maister of Woodbarrow." This list includes "gray suit, high hat, white-topped boots, silk socks, flower, gloves, umbrelle, striped shirt, high collar, gray silk, tie, watch and chain,

Writes:

My DEAR OLD BURGLER: I am so giad thee has made a bit in your new play. Mr. Frohman sent me the paper, and I real all about it. I think it must be very nearly as good as the Burgler, but net quite. You know nothing could be. I have lo go to the theatre now as goodby, with love. From your

ing could be. I have to go to the theatre new, so good by, with love. From your to the theatre new, so good by, with love. From your to the towns in which Mr. Bothern expects to appear, and underneath it a receipted laundry bill. Evidentity Mr. Bothern uses the wall of his dressing room as a sort of memorandum book to germind him of things that he wants to do. There are many little notes and memoranda.

Across the hallway from this room is the room usually occupied by Miss Cayvan. It is now occupied temporarily by two actors of Mr. Bothern's company. When Miss Cayvan returns the walls will be decorated with handsome mirrors of different shapes, but all framed in rough white felt.

Tully Marshall's room is beautified by the presence of a little legend on a perfumed scrap of paper tucked in under the edge of the mirror frame, which reads: "My darling Pousy Wopsy." The handwriting was so full of character that the artist felt constrained to reproduce it.

Virginia Harned is ever present in her cosey

actor that the artist felt constrained to reproduce it.

Virginia Harned is ever present in her cosev little dressing room; that is, there are seven counterfeit presentments of her in the room. Six of them are ranged in a row on a shelf under the mirror, and one of extra size resis a few inches away on a corner of the same shelf. The photographs give different views of Virginis. One very odd one shows her holding a pot of paims behind her back. The broad paim leaves droop gracefully over her head, and, as the not is concealed from view, the effect is very odd. One dainty gold hairpin resting on a piece of tissue paper, a lemon, and a cocktail glass told of recent occupancy of the room.

and a cocktail glass told of recent occupancy of the room.

At the Madison Square, where one would, of course, expect to see some things reminiscent of old-time actors, workmen had entered the sanctums and were covering the walls with paint. Without doubt, the most interesting dressing rooms in this city just now would be those used by the Kendals. But Mrs. Kendal was average to letting the public in to see her notes and theatrical properties, and her wishes had to be respected.

TALK ABOUT THE SCHOOLS.

At the latest meeting of the Board of Education a letter was received from Col. Jasper suggesting that some of the assistant superintendents should visit other cities and learn what is being done by other communities in the matter of manual training, the size of classes and class rooms, methods of management, courses of study, and other things perment courses of study and other things per-taining to public instruction. This is just in the line of what The Sun has repeatedly sug-gested. It would be a good thing for the as-sistant superintendents to pass several months inspecting the schools of other cities, but it would be much better if some of the members of the Board of Education, whose opinions were crystallized many years ago, should ac-company the assistant superintendents and find out by personal observation what the company the assistant superintendents and find out by personal observation what the progress in education has been elsewhere. rather than to depend altogather upon the reports presented by the assistant superintendents after their return home. There is no city in the United States which has a perfect school system, but there are many that have far better methods than prevail in the New York schools. In some cities there are better courses of instruction, in other cities there are more correct ideas maintained with regard to the quality of teachers, and in others the general class of buildings is better. New York probably could not afford to take any one city as its model, but from a study of the various good things found in ten or a dozen of the larger cities the assistant superintendents could present a report indicating the particular features of excellence abroad and thus point out to the School Commissioners here the best road to general improvement. Col. Jasper recommended in his letter to the Board that an appropriation for the expenses of the visiting superintendents should be asked from the Board of Estimate and Apportionment. The letter was not presented until the Commissioners had become tired over the wrangle upon the wages to be paid the scrubmen and the scrubwomen, and action upon Col. Jasper's scheme was postponed. It is estimated that the inspection would cost \$3,000.

In the midst of all the criticism passed upon the New York public schools it is gratifying to find that there is one bureau in the department wherein work of the highest grade is being done. From all over the country visitors are coming to inspect the school houses which have been erected within the past few years by Mr. George W. Debevoise, Superintendent of School Buildings. Mr. Debevoise is preëminently a school architect. He understands what the requirments are in respect of light, heat, ventilation, and seating capacity. Hitherto the Board of Eduction has been satisfied with giving to pupils in the lower grades from seventy to eighty feet apiece, and in the higher grades from ninety to 100 cubic feet. In the buildings which Mr. Debevoise has put up the pupils have 200 cubic feet apiece, and in some cases even more. In other cities the necessity of providing at least 200 cubic feet of air space for each pubil was long recognized, and although in a majority of our schools the limit is placed at from seventy to 100 cubic feet, there will before long be sufficient schools having the proper space for each child to justify the reformers in this town pointing with particular pride to the improvement which Mr. Debevoise has begun.

At least two members of the Board of Education have under consideration schemes for a ment wherein work of the highest grade is

cation have under consideration schemes for a general reconstruction of the public school system. Their plans involve changes in the size of classes, a remodelling of the course of study, the establishment of schools which will cover part of the work now done by the higher grades in the two colleges, and finally a transformation of the Normal College so that a thorough course in pedagogy may be carried on there. Whether either of these plans will come fully before the Hoard of Education will depend upon circumstances. The controlling body of the school department is in such a generally unsettled condition that the most intelligent Commissioners hesitate to present any solious plans. They see that there are too many members of the Board who are practically unfitted to debate a purely educational subject. When it is remembered that there are some Commissioners who can neither write nor speak the English language without violating many rules of grammar; when it is remembered that there are some Commissioners who think that the object of manual training is to make boys carpenters and girls cooks; when it is remembered that some Commissioners are in the Board solely to advance their personal ends and go so far as to trample upon the spirit of the school laws to accomplish these purposes, it is evident why the better class of members are noxtponing action upon some of the subjects demanding attention. It is confidently expected, however, that the new men whom Mayor Grant will place on the Board will be sufficiently equipped to join with the good men now there and bring to a satisfactory conclusion some of the questions that are now causing trouble. general reconstruction of the public school

CANTINIÈRE OF 1870.

drink to a dring soldier. Notwithstanding her wound she still managed to drag a wounded officer out of the action.

Among the cantinières who will be mustered out of service by this order of the French War Department is the one belonging to the 181st infantry. By a general order the title of First Canteen Woman of France "was bestowed upon her.

This 'Last of the Cantinières," whose portrait is given herewith, is a native of Lorraine. Her maiden name was Marie Cholé. She is a widew and 50 years of age. It will be noted that her uniform has affixed to it two medals. The engraving reproduces very latifully the uniform of a canteen woman of to-day with her three-colored keg swung by her side. Nime. Bonnemairs received the military medal in 1866. On the day after she marched with her rediment in the grand review at Longchamps, and as she strode proudly by, her gold medal glistening in the sun, she was saluted with burst upon burst of applaues from the multi-tude, mingled with eries of "There goes the brave cantinière of the 131st! the First Canteen Woman of France!"

The Western Union Company Sells About \$1,000,000 Worth of It Annually.

faw weeks ago to account for a suiden and remarkable briskness in trade. Hor stock of flowers was exhausted in the early hours of french army life. That is to say, her place is to be filled by a commonplace "cantinibre" or suiter—some old soidler, who, with his wife, will be obliged to stick to his wagon, which must keep its place in the rear of the army must keep its place in the rear of the army must keep its place in the rear of the army hours of the control of the cont

solute solar time no less than 7,000 clocks in the city of New York alons. Each clock is charged for this sarvice \$15 a year, which makes an income of \$10,000 so derived from the metropolis only. Doubtless quite \$1,000,000 annually is obtained from the setting of clocks ene a day in the populated centres, smail and large, of the Union. All that the company is obliged to pay for the time which sells for so vast a yearly sum is the cost of maintaining its instruments at the observatory and the wires connecting these instruments with the main office in Washington. But it must be remembered that the cost of stopping telegraphic operations for four minutes in the busiest part of each day, throughout the country, is not inconsiderable. Nevertheless, the profit is sufficiently great to excite the indignation of the private observatories, which wish to sell time themselves, against the Western Union. They contend that although they are able to make and deliver an equally good and accurate quality of time themselves, the pre-tige naturally attaching to Government time drives their product out of the market and rains the local trade they might otherwise find profit in. Who is going to buy time of them when the same commodity is to be purchased at a cheap rate from the national astronomer?

In response to their protest addressed to the Secretary of the Navy the latter has replied that any one is welcome to share the same privileges enjoyed by the Western Union Company in the getting of time free of charge. The local trades they might share the same privileges enjoyed by the Western Union Company in the getting of time free of charge. The forstal Tolegraph, for example, is welcome to put its own instruments in and and leash the measure of the hourto 60,000,000 poole, and more particular electric contrivance, so that the current passing through them spirites may be able to correct their chronometers. This last was from the start the prime object of the service. The clocks that are set every noon in a thousand cities and the

Ris Bravado Cost Him His Life,

BEADDOCK, Pa., Oct. 31.-Robert Washington. colored, of Culpepper, Va., has been at work as a bricklayers' laborer in the Edgar Thomson Steel Works. It was noticed by Superintendent Pierce of the Carnegie Electric Light Company that he often grasped the electric Light light was not contained by the conta light wire, when the current was turned off, in order to show the men that he was not afraid. order to show the men that he was not afraid. He was warned by Pierce several times. Last night at 10 o'clock Washington was seen to climb up several steps and reach out his hand toward the electric light lamp. Some one shouled a warning to him, but it was too late. His hand touched the wire, and, in an instant, his frame stiffened and he fell to the floor below dead. Not a muscle twitthed, and his death must have been instantaneous. His right hand had touched the wire, and his left, clinging to an iron rod, had completed the circuit. There was no mark except on the right hand, where a slight soar was found where he had grasped the wire.